

REMARKS

Preliminary, Applicants affirm the election of claims 1-4 for prosecution, without traverse.

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,021,501 to Ohmori et al, citing compound α Fi19F at col. 8, lines 63-64. Claims 1, 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,069,941 to Ohmori et al, citing the compound at col. 2, line 18. Finally, claims 1, 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Essers et al, *Journal of Fluorine Chemistry* 2003, 121(2), pp. 163-170, citing compound 2d which is Entry 4 in Table 1 at page 164.

In response, claim 1 has been amended to recite that p in Formula (I) is limited to 1, to thereby exclude the prior art.

That is, as claimed in amended claim 1, the fluorine-containing compound contains a -S- or -SO_2- group represented by Z which directly bonds to a -CH_2- group.

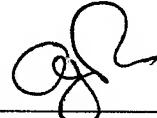
None of Ohmori '501, Ohmori '941 and Essers discloses the claimed compound where the -S- or -SO_2- group directly bonds to the -CH_2- group. Therefore, the amended claims define novel subject matter. Moreover, there is nothing in the prior art which suggests the desirability of modifying the structure of the compounds disclosed therein to arrive at the fluorine-containing compound of amended claim 1.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 1-4 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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